

STAR TREK



STARDATE 9640.1: STARFLEET
COMMAND, SAN FRANCISCO,
EARTH...



8/15

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YOU ALWAYS KNEW I'D
GIVEN YOU COMMAND OF
THE ENTERPRISE ON A
PURELY TEMPORARY BASIS.



YES, I
KNEW...
BUT I NEVER
REALLY BE-
LIEVED IT.

YOU MEAN...
THAT'S IT?
I'M BEACHED?

GERRY
CONWAY
DICK
KULPA

"BEACHED"...
THAT'S PUT-
TING IT
STRONGLY,
KIRK.

LET'S SIMPLY
SAY YOU'VE
BEEN REAS-
IGNED TO
SHORE DUTY.
PERMANENTLY.

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AFTER ALL, AS AN ADMIRAL,
YOUR PROPER PLACE IS
HERE AT STARFLEET
COMMAND--



NO, SIR--MY PROPER
PLACE IS OUT THERE, WITH
THE ENTERPRISE. IF I STAY
LANDBOUND, I'LL DRY UP... DIE.

ADMIRAL,
I'VE
NO
CHOICE--
**I
RESIGN!**

GERRY
CONWAY
DICK
KULPA

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JIM, WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU LOOK LIKE
YOU'VE BEEN
KICKED BY A
COUNTRY
MULE!

I HAVE,
BONES.

GERRY
COMMY
DICK
KULPA

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YAMAMOTO JUST
KICKED ME OFF THE
ENTERPRISE... AND
IN RETURN, I QUIT.

YOU QUIT
STARFLEET?
BUT THE
FLEET'S
YOUR
LIFE,
JIM!

WRONG, DR.
MCCOV... THAT'S
MY LIFE, UP
THERE.
SPACE.

THE
FINAL
FRONTIER.

I'VE NEVER
SEEN JIM SO
INTENSE, SO
DETERMINED...
AND THAT'S
GIVING A GREAT
DEAL!

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LOSING THE
ENTERPRISE
PERMANENTLY
--MUST HAVE
AFFECTED
HIM VERY
DEEPLY!

THE WAY
HE'S
ACTING--
WORRIES
ME!

BARTENDER
--DRINKS FOR
ME AND MY
FRIEND, RIGELIAN
KRYSS--THE
BEST YOU'VE
GOT.

GERRY
COMMY
DICK
KULPA

FRIEND
KIRK, I'M
NOT LETTING
YOU OUT OF
MY SIGHT.

SO WHAT NOW, MCCOY? I'M A CAPTAIN WITHOUT A SHIP... ABOUT AS MUCH USE ON LAND AS A REFEREE AT A LOVER'S QUARREL...



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PLEAZ IF THIS ONE COULD MAKE AMIABLE SUGGESTION?



HONORABLE PERSONAGE REQUIRES SHIP... AND THIS ONE REQUIRES CAPTAIN.



GERRY
COMMIT
DICK
KULAM

YOUR COMMENTS REGARDING ADMIRAL KIRK HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AND UNDERSTOOD, ADMIRAL YARAMOTO.



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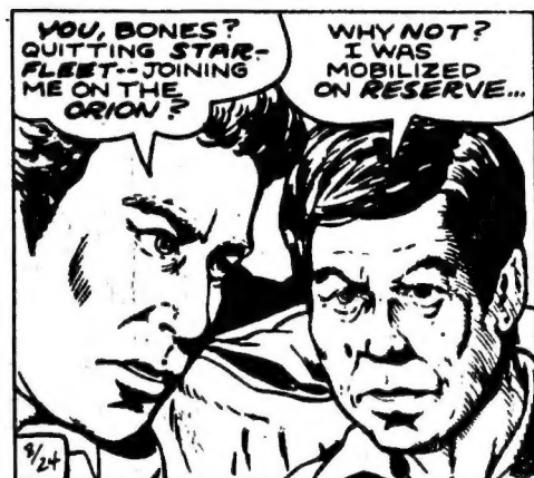
THE ENTERPRISE WILL REMAIN IN DRY DOCK, AWAITING STARFLEET ORDERS.



ADMIRAL KIRK -- BEACHED?
MR. SPOCK... CAPTAIN... IT'S UNTHINKABLE!







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GERRY
CONWAY
DICK
KULPA



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GERRY
CONWAY
DICK
KULPA

"INTERESTING?" CAPTAIN, THIS IS ADMIRAL KIRK. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT NOT SOME FAULTY COMPUTER BANK.

I AM AWARE OF THE DISTINCTION, MR. SCOTT.

HOWEVER, JAMES KIRK IS A COMPETENT ADULT, AND HIS ACTIONS ARE NOT FOR US TO JUDGE.

PLEASE HAND ME THAT SENSOR PROBE.

AND I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE ADMIRAL'S FRIEND. IT'S ICE WATER THAT RUNS IN YOUR VEINS, MR. SPOCK.

PURE ICE WATER!

GERRY CONWAY
DICK KULPA

-- AND I STILL CANNA BELIEVE IT.

ADMIRAL KIRK QUITTIN' THE FLEET, TO BECOME A FREE TRADER--

-- AND MR. SPOCK, TAKING THE NEWS LIKE WE WERE TALKING ABOUT A TOTAL STRANGER.

SHOULD I TAKE THAT AS A COMPLIMENTARY OBSERVATION, MR. SCOTT?

I TELL YOU, HE'S A DEEP ONE...

CAPTAIN SPOCK--!

ON THE FREE TRADER
ORION...

ALL HANDS, THIS IS
CAPTAIN JAMES T.
KIRK. I RUN A TIGHT
SHIP WITH A FAIR
HAND.

I REALIZE THE
RULES ARE
DIFFERENT
ON A TRADER
SHIP THAN A
BOARD A STAR-
FLEET
CRUISER...

KUFAH/CONWAY

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...SO BEAR WITH
ME DURING THESE
NEXT FEW DAYS,
AND I'LL BEAR
WITH YOU.

TIME
TO
LIFT-
OFF,
FIVE
SECONDS
... FOUR...
THREE...
TWO...
ONE...

LIFT-OFF!

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THE FREE TRADER
ORION...

PLEAZ TO OFFER
A TOAST, HONORABLE
CAPTAIN KIRK... TO
LONG AND PROFIT-
ABLE RELATIONSHIP.



KUFAH/CONWAY

AS YOU SAY, **MORBUS**... BUT
I'D LIKE TO ADD, TO THE
ENTERPR-- I MEAN, TO
THE ORION.



KUFAH/CONWAY

I
THOUGHT
SO...

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NO MATTER HOW MUCH
HE TRIES TO HIDE IT,
JIM'S STILL WITH
THE ENTERPRISE.



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ON THE
ORION...

PLEAZ TO SEE, CAPTAIN KIRK, CONTAINED IN CARGO HOLD... MANY INDIVIDUAL UNITS FOR TRANS-SHIPMENT TO EPSILON-21.



WHAT EXACTLY DO THEY CARRY? WHEN I SIGNED ABOARD, YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT FARM EQUIPMENT--?

FARM EQUIPMENT, YES. NO CONCERN OF YOURS, HONORABLE CAPTAIN.

NOW, PLEAZ TO FOLLOW FOR INSPECTION OF MAIN ENGINES.

THAT'S ODD.

I'LL SAY.

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CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS, ABOARD THE FREE TRADER ORION...

DID YOU NOTICE ANYTHING STRANGE ABOUT OUR EMPLOYER'S ATTITUDE TODAY, BONES?

I THINK I SAID SO AT THE TIME, JIM.

CONWAY/KELLEY

OUR FRIEND MORBUS SEEMED PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO AVOID EXAMINING OUR CARGO TOO CLOSELY.

I THOUGHT SO TOO, MCoy.

LET'S FIND OUT WHY!

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THE FREE TRADER ORION'S CARGO HOLD, DURING THE NIGHT WATCH..

HOPE JIM CAN KEEP DISTRACTING OUR HONORABLE BOSS... I NEED ALL THE TIME I CAN GET TO SEE WHAT'S SO MYSTERIOUS ABOUT THESE CARGO UNITS.

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HE SAYS THEY CONTAIN FARM EQUIPMENT FOR SHIPMENT TO EPSILON-21.

CLICK

BUT HE MAY BE LYING...

CONWAY/KELLOGG

GOOD HEAVENS! THIS IS INCREDIBLE!

BY NOW, MCCOY SHOULD BE IN THE CARGO HOLD -- FINDING OUT EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE CARRYING ABOARD THIS SHIP.

MORBUS HERE DOESN'T SEEM SUSPICIOUS, AND THAT'S FINE WITH--

CONWAY/KELLOGG

CAPTAIN KIRK... AWFUL SOMETHING, HAPPENED HAS...

EH?

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... YOUR FRIEND, MCCOY DOCTOR ... INJURED, HE IS!









**CONSPIRACY,
ABOARD THE
FREE-TRADER
ORION...**



GERRY
CONWAY
DICK
KULPA

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...SUGGEST
WE DISPOSE
OF KIRK,
AT ONCE!



**SIMULTANEOUSLY, IN THE
CARGO HOLD...**

I'VE GOT TO FIND
OUT WHAT MY
EMPLOYER IS
HIDING DOWN
HERE!



NOW, LET'S
SEE WHAT
MY EMPLOY-
ER CALLS
"FARMING
EQUIP-
MENT..."



GERRY
CONWAY
DICK
KULPA

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SO SORRY YOU LEARNED
OUR *SECRET*, CAPTAIN
KIRK-- ONLY CONFIRMS
NECESSITY OF YOUR
DISPOSAL.

MORBUS!

GERRY
COMMY
DICK
KULPA

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NEVER SHOULD
HAVE HIRED YOU, HONORABLE
KIRK--YOU ARE TOO
HONORABLE.

TOO
HONORABLE
TO GO ALONG
WITH THIS,
MORBUS...

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SCUM
WE MAY
BE, CAP-
TAIN KIRK--

BUT A'LEAST WE'LL LIVE
TO REACH EPSILON-21,
AND YOU CANNA SAY THE
SAME YOURSELF!



9/15

YOU USED MY REPUTATION AS
A STARFLEET ADMIRAL TO GET
THE ORION CLEARED FOR DE-
PARTURE--

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--AND NOW THAT
I'VE LEARNED
YOUR *SECRET*,
YOU PLAN TO
GET RID OF ME.

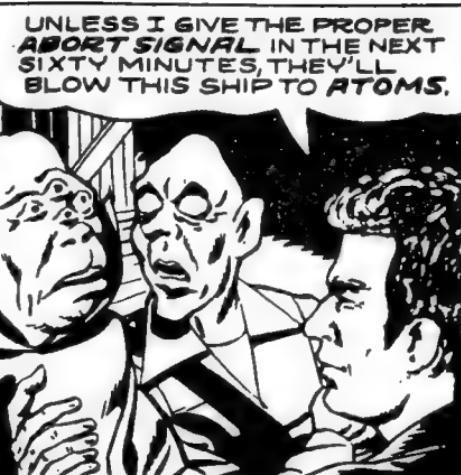
SMUGGLING ALIEN SLAVES
TO EPSILON-21 IN SEALED
CARGO UNITS... AND LABEL-
ING THEM "FARMING
EQUIPMENT!"

MORBUS,
YOU'RE
SCUM!

SORRY, MORBUS--IT WON'T
WORK!

GERRY
COMMY
DICK
KULPA

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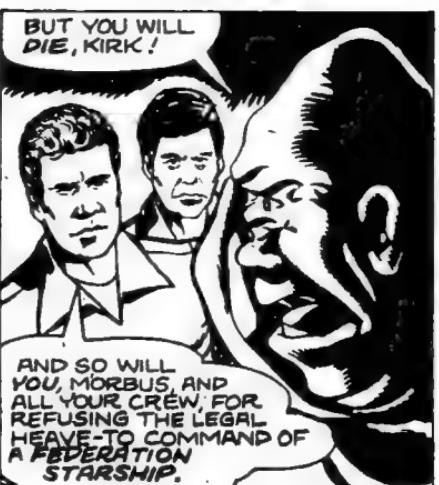


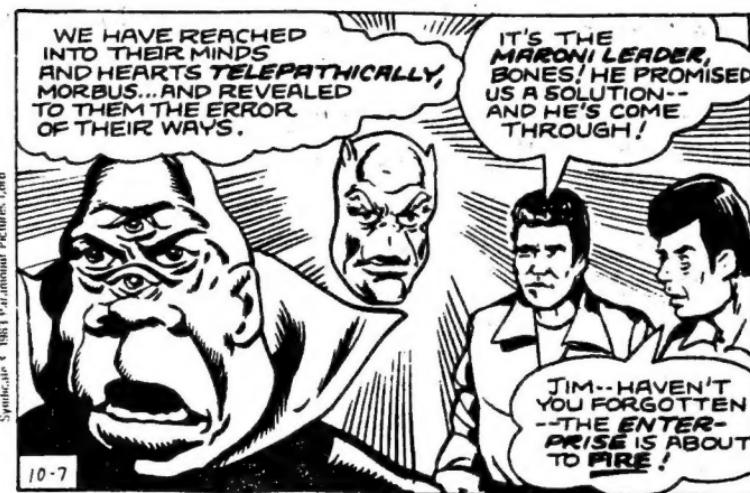
GERRY
COMIN
DICK
KULPA

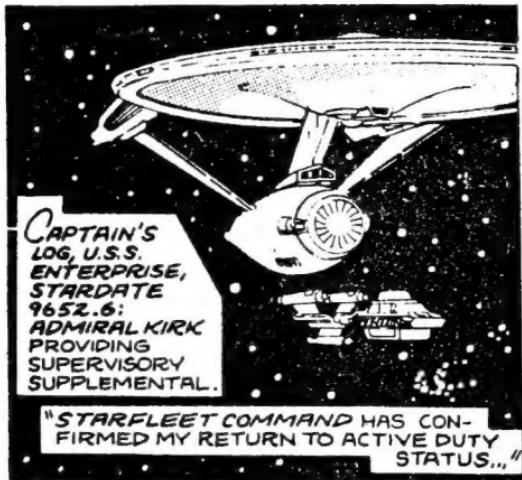
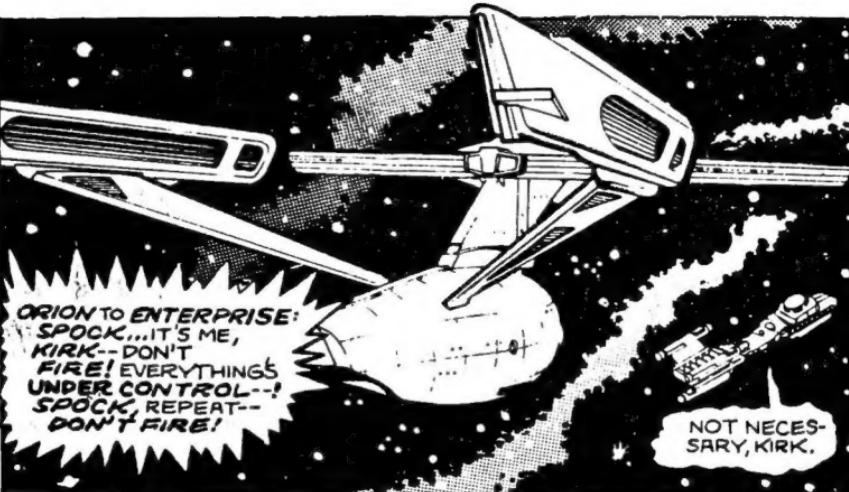
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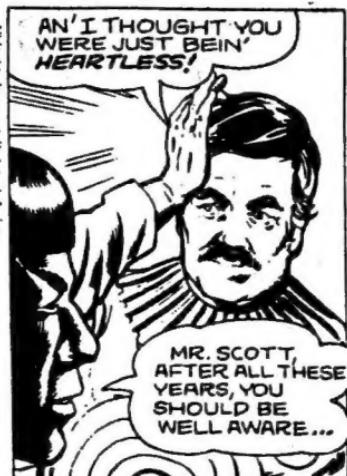
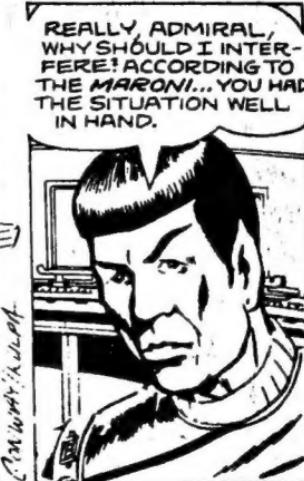


WHAT CONFUSES YOU ABOUT
THE ORION AFFAIR, ADMIRAL?

THE MARONI SAID THEY'D
BEEN IN TELEPATHIC CONTACT
WITH YOU SINCE THE ORION
LEFT
EARTH,
SPOCK--

YES, ADMIRAL.
A VARIATION OF
THE VULCAN
MIND LINK.

REALLY, ADMIRAL,
WHY SHOULD I INTER-
FERE? ACCORDING TO
THE MARONI... YOU HAD
THE SITUATION WELL
IN HAND.



SO THE MARONI
TAUGHT MORBUS'
MEN A TELEPATHIC
LESSON, DID THEY?

THEY DID,
BONES...THEY
SHOWED THE
CREW OF THE
ORION HOW TO
FEEL COMPASSION...

Conway/Kulpa 10/14

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...AND THE
SLAVE TRADER
WHO KNOWS
COMPASSION...
IS A SLAVE
TRADER.
NO LONGER!

IS THAT IT, JIM?
STARFLEET
WILL STILL WANT
YOU TO TAKE A
DESK JOB WHEN
WE RETURN...

OR DID
YOU
FORGET
THAT?

NO, I
DON'T
THINK
YOU HAVE
FORGOT-
TEN IT,
OLD
FRIEND.

I THINK YOU
JUST CAN'T
BRING YOUR-
SELF TO
REMEMBER...

10/15

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